

Focus Area 16: Maternal, Infant, and Child Health

Objective 16-1c targets the reduction in the infant death rate to 4.5 per 1,000 live births.

Based on data extracted from the Birth Cohort Perinatal Files, a total of 2,867 California infants born in 2003 died in their first year of life at a rate of 5.3 per 1,000 live births compared with 2,962 deaths in 2000 at a rate of 5.6 per 1,000 live births (Figure 16-1c, Table 16-1c). California's infant death rate remains significantly higher than the target established in HP2010, and this objective has not yet been achieved.

Data by race-ethnicity of the mother show that Others/Unknowns had the highest cohort infant death rates: 30.6 per 1,000 live births in 2000 compared with 27.5 per 1,000 in 2003. These rates are significantly higher than those of any other racial and ethnic population, and six to seven times greater than the HP2010 objective. The next highest infant death rates are reported for the African Americans/Blacks (11.7 per 1,000 live births in 2000 compared with 11.0 per 1,000 in 2003), followed by Hispanics/Latinos (5.2 per 1,000 live births in 2000 compared with 5.1 per 1,000 live births in 2003). The HP2010 objective is not yet being achieved for either of these racial or ethnic populations. The objective is, however, being achieved for Whites (4.4 per 1,000 live births in 2003), the Multirace population (3.9 per 1,000 live births in 2003), and for Asians (3.8 per 1,000 live births in 2003).

Examined by age of mother, the highest reliable cohort infant death rates occurred for mothers aged 15 to 19 years (7.4 per 1,000 live births in 2000 compared with 6.9 per 1,000 in 2003), followed by mothers aged 35 years and older (6.0 per 1,000 live births in 2000 compared with 5.7 per 1,000 in 2003). The HP2010 objective is not being achieved for any maternal age grouping except for 30-34 year-olds (4.5 per 1,000 live births in 2003).

Cohort infant death rates were significantly higher for male infants (5.8 per 1,000 live births in 2003) compared with female infants (4.8 per 1,000 live births in 2003). The HP2010 objective is not being achieved for either male or female infants as of 2003.

For more information on infant deaths in California, visit the Maternal and Child Health Branch Web site at: <http://www.mch.dhs.ca.gov/>

For more information on Healthy People 2010 objective 16-1c, please visit:

http://www.healthypeople.gov/Document/HTML/Volume2/16MICH.htm#_Toc494699661
and
<http://www.healthypeople.gov/Document/html/tracking/od16.htm#fetaldeaths>

Figure 16-1c
Infant Death Rates By Race-Ethnicity and Age of Mother, Sex of Child
California, 2000-2003

Healthy People 2010 objective = 4.5

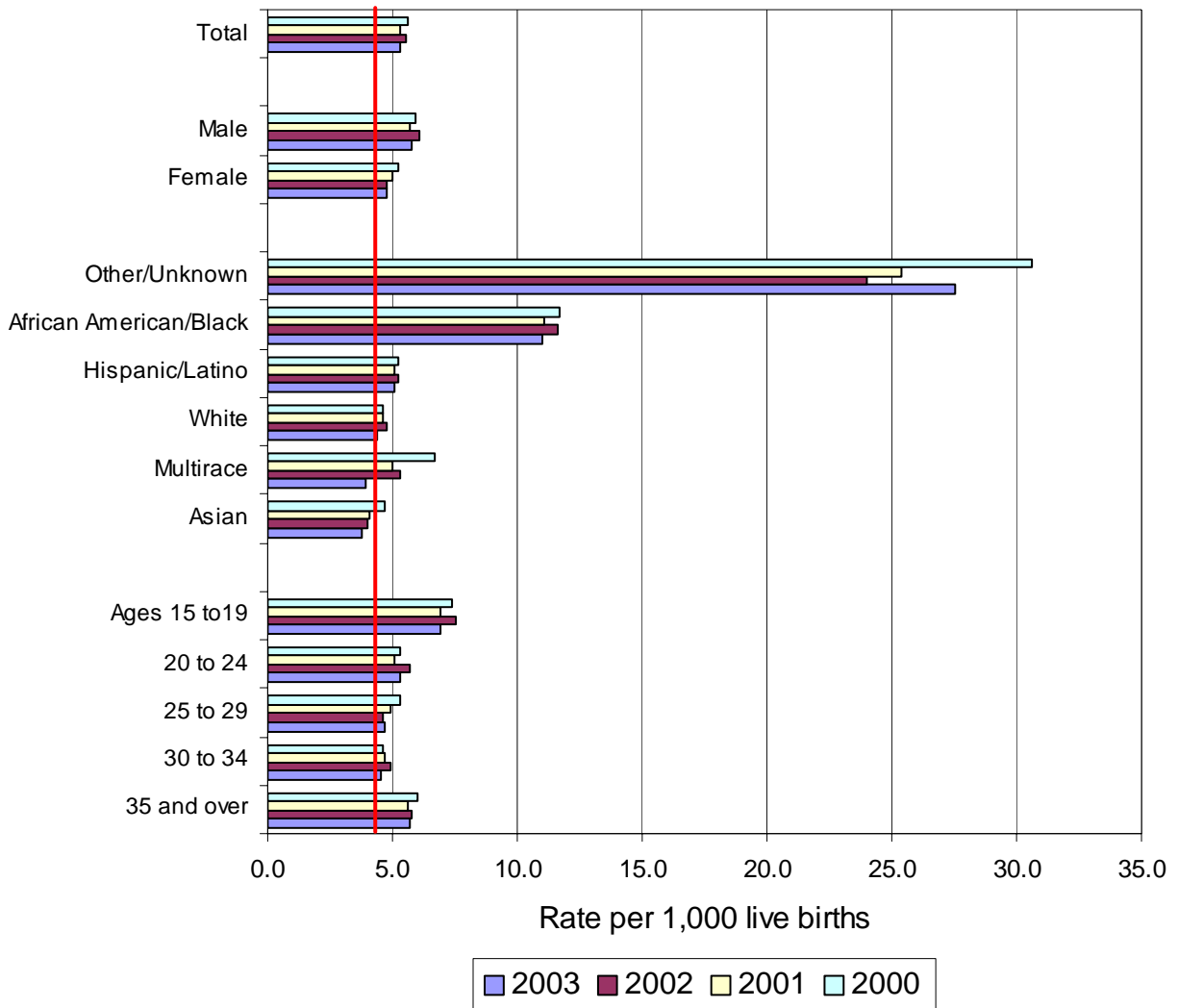


Table 16-1c: Infant Death Rates, California 2000-2003

HP2010 Objective 16-1c	2000					2001				
	Deaths	Births	Rate ¹	Lower 95% C.I.	Upper 95% C.I.	Deaths	Births	Rate ¹	Lower 95% C.I.	Upper 95% C.I.
Healthy People 2010 Target	4.5					4.5				
Statewide Total	2,962	531,313	5.6	5.4	5.8	2,819	527,452	5.3	5.1	5.5
Race-Ethnicity of Mother										
African American/Black	377	32,290	11.7	10.5	12.9	344	30,971	11.1	9.9	12.3
American Indian/Alaska Native	19	1,975	DSU	----	----	16	1,986	DSU	----	----
Asian	275	58,872	4.7	4.1	5.2	234	57,444	4.1	3.6	4.6
Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	20	2,376	DSU	----	----	16	2,356	DSU	----	----
Hispanic/Latino	1,354	257,963	5.2	5.0	5.5	1,330	261,022	5.1	4.8	5.4
White	772	168,219	4.6	4.3	4.9	758	163,787	4.6	4.3	5.0
Multirace	42	6,254	6.7	4.7	8.7	32	6,388	5.0	3.3	6.7
Other/Unknown	103	3,364	30.6	24.7	36.5	89	3,498	25.4	20.2	30.7
Maternal Age Group										
Under 15	16	895	DSU	----	----	10	810	DSU	----	----
15 - 19	412	55,375	7.4	6.7	8.2	366	52,972	6.9	6.2	7.6
20 - 24	649	122,581	5.3	4.9	5.7	633	123,231	5.1	4.7	5.5
25 - 29	739	139,604	5.3	4.9	5.7	670	136,448	4.9	4.5	5.3
30 - 34	584	127,509	4.6	4.2	5.0	602	127,951	4.7	4.3	5.1
35 and over	514	85,251	6.0	5.5	6.6	484	85,948	5.6	5.1	6.1
Sex of Child										
Female	1,356	259,218	5.2	5	5.5	1,281	258,171	5.0	4.7	5.2
Male	1,602	272,089	5.9	5.6	6.2	1,527	269,268	5.7	5.4	6.0

HP2010 Objective 16-1c	2002					2003				
	Deaths	Births	Rate ¹	Lower 95% C.I.	Upper 95% C.I.	Deaths	Births	Rate ¹	Lower 95% C.I.	Upper 95% C.I.
Healthy People 2010 Target	4.5					4.5				
Statewide Total	2,905	529,334	5.5	5.3	5.7	2,867	540,821	5.3	5.1	5.5
Race-Ethnicity of Mother										
African American/Black	346	29,809	11.6	10.4	12.8	320	29,197	11.0	9.8	12.2
American Indian/Alaska Native	14	1,966	DSU	----	----	14	2,004	DSU	----	----
Asian	237	59,376	4.0	3.5	4.5	236	61,511	3.8	3.3	4.3
Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	18	2,411	DSU	----	----	19	2,409	DSU	----	----
Hispanic/Latino	1,378	263,056	5.2	5.0	5.5	1,366	269,641	5.1	4.8	5.3
White	770	161,486	4.8	4.4	5.1	718	162,902	4.4	4.1	4.7
Multirace	36	6,812	5.3	3.6	7.0	28	7,110	3.9	2.5	5.4
Other/Unknown	106	4,418	24.0	19.4	28.6	166	6,047	27.5	23.3	31.6
Maternal Age Group										
Under 15	8	743	DSU	----	----	6	709	DSU	----	----
15 - 19	376	50,209	7.5	6.7	8.2	340	49,320	6.9	6.2	7.6
20 - 24	704	123,066	5.7	5.3	6.1	657	123,787	5.3	4.9	5.7
25 - 29	626	137,242	4.6	4.2	4.9	654	140,533	4.7	4.3	5.0
30 - 34	638	130,377	4.9	4.5	5.3	600	134,788	4.5	4.1	4.8
35 and over	504	87,611	5.8	5.3	6.3	518	91,555	5.7	5.2	6.1
Sex of Child										
Female	1,243	258,896	4.8	4.5	5.1	1,255	263,877	4.8	4.5	5.0
Male	1,655	270,429	6.1	5.8	6.4	1,602	276,932	5.8	5.5	6.1

SOURCE: California Department of Health Services, Birth Cohort Perinatal Files, 2000-2003.

NOTES: * Cohort files contain linked birth and death records for infants born in the same calendar year and followed-up for one year to determine as accurately as possible how many deaths occurred during the first year of life.

¹ Cohort infant death rate per 1,000 live births; by mother's place of residence.

DSU Data Statistically Unreliable due to small number of events.